

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/603,333	RICHARDSON ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> Lars A Olson	<b>Art Unit</b> 3617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment received from the applicant on August 16, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 8/16/2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

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|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
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***Drawings***

1. The drawings were received on August 16, 2004. These drawings are acceptable.
2. An amendment was received from the applicant on August 16, 2004.
3. Claim 1 has been canceled.

**Reasons for Allowance**

4. Claims 2-16 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The device for guiding an anchor rope as claimed is not shown or suggested in the prior art because of the use of a device that is comprised of a mounting bracket with a base and a pair of sides that are spaced apart to define a channel, a center roller for guiding said anchor rope, said center roller extending between said sides and being disposed rotatably about a horizontal center roller axis that extends between said sides at a location adjacent a front of said channel, and a pair of non-abrasive vertical guides, each of which is located adjacent to and extends along a front portion of a respective one of said sides in order to aid in guiding said anchor rope, where at least one of said non-abrasive vertical guides includes a vertical roller that is mounted for rotation about a vertical axis.

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6. The prior art as previously cited by the examiner shows the use of various forms of boat anchor davits with a center guide roller for guiding an anchor rope or chain. However, none of the prior art cited shows or suggests the use of a device for guiding an anchor rope, said device being comprised of a mounting bracket with a base and a pair of sides that are spaced apart to define a channel, a center roller for guiding said anchor rope, said center roller extending between said sides and being disposed rotatably about a horizontal center roller axis that extends between said sides at a location adjacent a front of said channel, and a pair of non-abrasive vertical guides, each of which is located adjacent to and extends along a front portion of a respective one of said sides in order to aid in guiding said anchor rope, where at least one of said non-abrasive vertical guides includes a vertical roller that is mounted for rotation about a vertical axis.

### ***Conclusion***

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Exr. Lars Olson whose telephone number is (703) 308-9807.

lo

October 19, 2004

LARS A. OLSON  
PATENT EXAMINER

*Lars Olson*  
10/19/04